



Melanie E. La Rocca  
Commissioner

280 Broadway  
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New York, NY 10007  
nyc.gov/buildings

November 8, 2019

Andy Byford  
President  
MTA – New York City Transit  
130 Livingston Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear President Byford:

Late this afternoon I received a letter from David Farber of your agency stating that the inspection and maintenance of the retaining walls along the New York City Transit Authority's (NYCTA) B/Q and N lines in Brooklyn are the sole responsibility of the New York City Transit Authority. I appreciate NYCTA reaching out with this new and important information.

In order to move forward with mutual clarity and understating, the New York City Department of Buildings ("Department") will be providing your office with a list of block and lots in this catchment area. I would appreciate your confirmation that the Authority will be assuming responsibility for the inspection, repair, and maintenance of those aforementioned properties.

In order to avoid any potential for this situation moving forward, please provide the Department with information about any other retaining walls within New York City that are under NYCTA's jurisdiction and adjacent to other private properties. This information will ensure that my agency can confirm that the correct responsible parties are accounted for and that the structures are properly maintained for the safety of all New Yorkers.

Based on this new information, for all proprieties along the B/Q and N lines in Brooklyn for which NYCTA has taken sole responsibility for, the Department will be rescinding the non-monetary violation letters sent out to homeowners.

Thank you for clarifying the ownership and responsibility of the retaining walls in question. I look forward to working together with you on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melanie E. La Rocca", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Melanie E. La Rocca  
Commissioner

Cc: David Farber, Acting General Counsel